GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2230
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Clearance for Mines
Tarai Smt. Rita

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not considered the applications for issuance of Term of Reference for Environmental and Forest Clearance for iron and manganese ore mines from Odisha on the ground that Carrying Capacity Study has not been completed so far;
(b) if so, the details of applications returned by the Ministry on the ground of non-completion of carrying capacity study; and
(c) the date on which the Carrying Capacity study has been commissioned and the expected date for completion of the study and final policy decision in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) & (b): Twenty seven (27) proposals of Terms of Reference (TOR) / Environmental Clearance (EC) for the Iron and Manganese Ore mining in the State of Odisha have been received in the Ministry. Out of this three (3) proposals have been placed before Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). The remaining proposals have not been placed before EAC for want of Carrying Capacity Study and no application has been returned. As per the procedure prescribed EC is granted only after Stage-I Forest Clearance.

(c): The Carrying Capacity Study was entrusted on 05.08.2014 to National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). The NEERI has submitted its interim report. The matter has been reviewed in the Ministry to expedite submission of Report. The exact date of completion of the Study is not available. However, the expected month of completion is December 2016.
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